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Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 113, line 24, with the following amended paragraph:

Partial p40 nucleotide sequences having 571 nt for patients H1, H2 and H3 are shown in Figures 5A-1 and 5A-2 as compared to the corresponding regions in C6BV and Strain V, along with a consensus sequence. The nucleotide alignments are as previously described. The 571 nt region corresponds to the region amplified by the first primer pair indicated above while a 528 nt region results from nested PCR as previously described. The p40 consensus sequence is listed as SEQ ID NO 13. The H1, H2 and H3 patient sequences are respectively listed as SEQ ID NO ~~13~~ 14, SEQ ID NO ~~14~~ 15 and SEQ ID NO ~~15~~ 16. The corresponding respective encoded human BDV p40 full-length polypeptides are listed in SEQ ID NO 28 (Figure 11A), SEQ ID NO 29 (Figure 11B) and SEQ ID NO 30 (Figure 11C).